



Dental Practice-Based Research Network
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Each month we highlight a recent DPBRN publication, recent study results, or other important DPBRN information.

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Abstract of DPBRN Publication of the Month

Change in stated clinical practice associated with participation in The Dental Practice-Based Research Network. *Gen Dent* 2010 Nov-Dec;58 (6):520-8.

"Change in stated clinical practice associated with participation in The Dental Practice-Based Research Network" appeared originally in the November/December 2010 issue of *General Dentistry* (Published with permission by the Academy of General Dentistry. © 2010 by the Academy of General Dentistry. All rights reserved).

DPBRN dentists completed a detailed questionnaire about how they diagnose and treat dental caries. They next received a customized report that compared their answers to those from all other practitioner-investigators. Of the DPBRN dentists who completed the questionnaire, 126 of them attended DPBRN's first network-wide meeting of practitioner-investigators from all five of its regions. During that meeting, certain questions were repeated and new ones were asked about the dentist's intention to change the way that he or she diagnosed or treated dental caries. The results indicated that less than one-third of practitioner-investigators intended to change how they diagnosed or treated caries as a result of receiving the customized report. However, as a result of the meeting, the majority of these same practitioner-investigators stated an intention to change toward a more conservative, less surgically invasive approach. These findings are consistent with the idea that a highly interactive meeting with fellow practitioner-investigators may be an effective means to translate scientific findings into clinical practice. Practitioner-investigators are open to changing how they treat patients as a result of engaging fellow practitioner-investigators in the scientific process.